REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. The Office Action rejected Claims 1-7 as follows: Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.§102(e) as being anticipated by Akahane (U.S. 6,226,533); and Claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.§103(a) as unpatentable over Hyde-Thomson (U.S. 5,717,742) in view of Akahane.

With respect to independent Claim 1, Examiner asserts that Akahane discloses "a method for storing a voice message in a mobile telephone having a memory for storing a voice message, comprising the steps of (a) determining whether a voice message store mode is set by a user". This rejection only covers a single one of the several enumerated elements of Claim 1.

In continued regard to Claim 1, Claim 1 reads, in relevant part: "...upon completion of storing the voice message, calculating storage-related information and storing the storage-related information in the memory as voice message storage information for the stored voice message." In contrast to Claim 1, Akahane does not disclose calculating or storing storage-related information for a stored voice message. Further, Claim 1 reads, in relevant part: "...determining whether storing the voice message is completed, if the remaining memory capacity is sufficient to store the voice message, and returning to the step (c) if storing the voice message is not completed..." Akahane only discloses "predetermining" available message time, i.e. determining available message time before commencement of message recording, not during message recording (see, e.g., Akahane column 7, lines 62-66). Therefore, Akahane does not anticipate Claim 1.

Claims 2-4 depend from independent Claim 1 and therefore are not anticipated by

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Akahane for at least the reasons that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Akahane.

In his rejection of claims 5-7, Examiner cites Akahane as disclosing "reproducing a voice message in a mobile telephone having a memory for storing a voice message and storage-related information." However, the text of Akahane cited by Examiner discloses only a duration indicator being extinguished and "the option of replaying and revising the message through any of a number of iterations or accepting the message." (See Akahane column 6, lines 1-7.) Akahane makes no mention of storing storage-related information, such as time of the voice message, length of the voice message, or memory capacity used for storing the voice message (see Application page 7, lines 23-25).

Independent Claim 5 reads, in relevant part: "(e) determining whether a scroll key is input; and (f) finding a next voice message and returning to step (c) to reproduce the next voice message, if the scroll key is input." Claim 5 thus allows reproduction of the current message to be ended in mid-reproduction and reproduction of the next message to begin through the input solely of a scroll key. In contrast to Claim 5, neither Akahane nor Hyde-. Thomson discloses or suggests any such functionality to end reproduction of one message and commence reproduction of a next message through the input solely of a scroll key. Further, neither Akahane nor Hyde-Thomson disclose a scroll key that can both select a message for reproduction and cause reproduction of the message to begin. Hyde-Thomson discloses the use of either a "double-click" (not connected with a scroll key by the disclosure of Hyde-Thomson) or a separate play button 1709 (which does not have scroll functionality) to start reproduction (see Hyde-Thomson Figure 7 and column 15, lines 5-30); Akahane does not cure this deficiency of Hyde-Thomson. Consequently, Akahane and

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Hyde-Thomson cannot disclose or suggest any such functionality in combination. Therefore, Claim 5 is not made obvious by Hyde-Thomson in view of Akahane.

Claims 6-7 depend from independent Claim 5 and therefore are not made obvious by Hyde-Thomson in view of Akahane for at least the reasons that Claim 5 is not made obvious by Hyde-Thomson in view of Akahane.

Applicant submits that pending Claims 1-7 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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